

TUCCI GIRL BREAKS DOWN ON SEEING PICTURE OF SISTER

Murder Defendant is Led Weeping From the Court Room.

REPUTATION PRAISED

Husband of Slain Woman Says He Had Not Seen Her For Nine Years.

Maria Tucci broke down utterly within a minute after she took the stand to-day to undergo cross-examination by Assistant District Attorney Talley in her trial for the killing of her sister, Angelina Conti, in their home in West Houston Street last March.

When Mr. Talley handed her a photograph and asked whether it showed the position of her sister's body as she remembered it the morning of the shooting, Maria broke into a storm of weeping. Mrs. Bella Norton, Deputy Sheriff, at once came forward and Maria was led, still loudly crying, from the court room. It was ten minutes before she was sufficiently composed to return.

Meanwhile Dominico Zingale, a neighbor, and Eugene Fuggazy, a Bleeker Street banker, testified to Maria's good reputation.

The husband of the dead woman, Salvatore Conti of Newark, who said he had never seen Angelina since he left her in Sicily nine years ago, testified that he had married again four years ago. He said he had received "a paper" in Italy telling him that Angelina need no longer look to him for support, and believed this gave him the right to marry again.

Maria Tucci was recalled to the stand and went again over the story of Angelina's last night. She said her sister had threatened her with both knife and revolver and put a hand over her mouth to prevent any outcry. Maria reiterated her testimony that her finger was not on the trigger of the revolver when it exploded.

Mr. Talley asked how quickly the second shot followed the first, and Maria clapped her hands smartly by way of illustration, less than half a second between the blows. At that time, she said, she was holding and forcing backward Angelina's right hand in which the revolver was clamped.

Maria described how, following the shooting, she had thrown the bed clothes over her sister after taking Conchettina from the bed. She had gone this she said, to keep Angelina from being cold.

Order Banning Buses Is Stayed. Justice Lyon to-day signed an order, which does not take effect until passed on by the Appellate Division, prohibiting the Mayor and the Board of Estimate from operating municipal bus lines in competition with the Receiver of the New York City Railways in 52d Street, Seventh Avenue and 14th Street to the Williamsburg Bridge. The order does not affect any lines not competing with existing street car lines. A second order stays the execution of the review until a review has been acted upon by the higher court.

Tucci Girl Tells of Shadows in Her Life That Led to the Killing of Her Sister.

Girl on Trial For Murder Relates, in Dramatic Testimony, How Clouds Spread From Sicily to America.

Light Laughter and Threats Angelina's Only Response to Pleadings to Put End to Neighbors' Whisperings.

The story of Maria Tucci, as she herself has told it, turning a sudden ball of handkerchief in her hands, a sombre figure and all too small for the wide seat in which the purposes of the law placed her, is a story of the shadows that fell one by one across her life. And always they were the shadow of her sister.

They came upon her first in the little Sicilian village of Cerami, in Catania, her home. She was a child then, with eyes only for the shadows that the sun cast. But the others, so unseen then, deepened and lengthened as her years grew until they were all about her and she must see them. And at last they reached out from Cerami, crossed the leagues of intervening sea and touched her here in New York.

She was a woman then, for the girls of Sicily are women at twenty, and she knew what the shadows meant. Perhaps they were less heavy at first, but in the end they fell in a cloak over her whole life, for the sister, too, had come from Cerami and stood at her side to cast them. They weighed upon her young shoulders, and when she lifted her eyes she saw nothing but a careless smile upon the sister's mouth. Her sister's light laugh was always in her ears.

Then came a time when the shadows deepened to the black of foreboding. The heedless sister did not see them, though they were rolling tragically back upon her. What was all this nonsense, this fine sense of Maria's about a man? She could not understand it; men came into women's lives as a matter of course; why not now instead of waiting for a silly thing called a license and the mumbling of words? Besides, this man was rich, and both might profit. She knew him well; he was their cousin.

Day after day Maria heard it over and over again. But she refused. And at last one night the shadows filled a tenement room with darkness through which came the stabbing red of two pistol shots. Maria was kneeling on a disordered bed, her sister dead beneath her, the heartless urgency ended, the smile forever gone.

This is the story as Maria has told it, part of it at least, as she made her plea for what happened in the tenement room that night. Now the shadows about her are those of the law, for the others are laid with the woman who cast them.

SHADOW I.

Angelina and Maria Tucci lived the



MARIA TUCCI

happy life of sisters in sunny Cerami. Angelina was thirteen years older than her sister and a belle in the village. She was pretty and bright—well calculated to cast shadows. Maria worshipped her, as did the youths of the village, if in a different way. Angelina was "travelled," too, because in 1904, when Maria was four, she had gone to America and worked in New York for three years. That gave her a glamor. Maria said that she, too, would go to New York some day.

Not long after Angelina returned to Sicily she was won away from her other suitor by Salvatore Conti, a sturdy young workman of Troina who took her there to live. They were happy together for two or three years and one child was born to them. Perla, now a girl of twelve, and Conchettina. Perla does not enter into the narrative; but Conchettina was in the bed with her mother when the two tragic shots were fired in the dark tenement room. She was born to the marriage three months after Salvatore Conti left Sicily to seek fortune in America.

After Conti's departure Angelina again became a belle, this time in Troina, and very soon there were whisperings about her in the village. Particularly the whisperings concerned her with Antonio Torocco, the letter carrier. As a result, certainly

not of the whisperings, Angelina and Torocco were arrested. She had heard the whisperings and only smiled. Even the arrest dimmed the smile for only a little while, and then Angelina went to live in Nicotia. Later she returned to Cerami and didn't care how heads wagged now.

These were the first shadows that fell upon Maria. She did not understand the whisperings, but she was sure they meant something. Angelina only laughed. Maria loved her too much to laugh.

In time Maria grew to girl's estate. Then came the longing to go to New York where Angelina had been and where Angelina said there was so much money to be made. To make this dream come true little Maria worked hard and long and at last in the Winter of 1918 she had saved enough to make the voyage. She told Angelina that as soon as she could she would send back enough

money to bring Angelina across to join her. Angelina bade her hurry because she was tired of Sicily—and the whisperings.

When Maria reached New York she went to live with an Italian family at No. 99 West Houston Street who had known her people at home. This was the household of Mrs. Rosa Zingale, the mother of the Mascall boys, Luigi and Santo, who became her fast friends. Maria was a cap-maker and, getting employment at once, was soon at the task of saving and sending money back to Angelina. By this time Conti, hearing the whisperings in Sicily, had cut off all maintenance for his wife, and she was more than willing to leave for America where she could make a new home.

By dint of denial Maria sent several hundred dollars to Angelina, imploring her in each letter to come to New York. But, for some reason or other, the elder sister postponed her departure, though Maria continued to send and urge. One day she received a letter saying that Angelina was coming. And in October, 1919, Angelina arrived in New York with little Conchettina. Immediately Maria left the Zingale household and with the money she had left furnished three rooms in the West Houston Street tenement and she and Angelina began their life together.

SHADOW II.

Before Angelina came to America, one month to be exact, there had come to New York a cousin of hers, one Michael Mongiovi, a big fellow, attractive in a rough way, whom the Tuccis had known well in Cerami. He had always appealed to Angelina and they had been much together in Sicily. He wanted Angelina in America just as much as Maria did, differently interested, however, and he, too, gave her money to pay her way across. She promised to follow him in a month, and she kept this promise. Seeing Maria was an incidental consideration.

Mongiovi lost no time in seeking out Angelina, whom he found in the little home Maria had made for her. Maria liked Michael well enough as a cousin and was ready to welcome her kinsman, but Michael wanted to be something more than that to Angelina and Maria was not slow to see it. He was at the tenement door morning and night. The people in the house saw him coming and going at all hours with the freedom of a member of the household.

But Maria saw in the continuous visits of Michael more than a menace to Angelina; she saw a menace to herself. If Angelina were being so gossiped about by the neighbors, if their household was coming into disrepute, then no one would want to seek out the other sister, Maria, with marriage in his eye.

This, however, was not the worst that Maria was to experience. One day Angelina came to her with a proposition involving Michael and Maria herself, so that both sisters would profit, as Michael was rich. Maria learned that Angelina was really afraid of losing Michael and rather than lose him entirely she was willing to share him.

Thus came the deepest, most tragic shadow. Angelina persisted in her appeal and abruptly changed it to a threat, emphasized with a knife. She would kill Maria if the latter longer refused to accede. The last conversation upon this sordid subject came early on the morning of March 8 last. Angelina, lying in bed beside her

nine-year-old Conchettina, drew the knife from beneath her pillow and showed the harassed Maria how she would be cut and stabbed if she stood steadfast in refusing. Angelina even threatened to have Maria stabbed in the street while on her way to work. Maria managed at last to get the knife away from Angelina and hid it beneath the carpet, whereupon Angelina drew a revolver from her pillow and made her last threatening threat, with the weapon pointed at Maria's breast. Then was the struggle in the dark room, the two shots, and the stilling of all the pleading and threats. Angelina was dead.

SHADOW III.

This is the shadow of the law under which Maria Tucci sits in General Session, telling her story through the interpreter, rehearsing with him the position of herself and her sister at the moment the pistol was discharged, telling of her flight from the city to her brothers' homes in Montclair and Bloomfield, and, failing of asylum there, to Atlantic City, still keeping Conchettina with her. In Atlantic City she learned that her sister had been killed by the shots, and instantly she went to the police, told them her name, told them of the tragedy in the dim tenement room and gave herself up.

Franklin Simon & Co.

Fifth Avenue, 37th and 38th Streets

WILL CLOSE OUT WEDNESDAY

Women's Wrap-Coats, Capes and Coats

35.00

Regular Prices \$45.00 to \$89.50

In the season's most desirable colorings

PEACHBLOOM	POLO CLOTH	TRICOTINE
GOLDTONE	BOLIVIA	SERGE
WOOL PLAIDS	CHAMELEON CORD	
ENGLISH MIXTURES.		

Also a limited number of silk wraps

NO CREDITS

NO EXCHANGES

WOMEN'S WRAP SHOP—Fourth Floor

The Bargain Opportunity of a Lifetime:

Lee-Morris Co.

The Well-known Fifth Avenue Fashion Shop

394 Fifth Avenue

at 36th Street

at 36th Street

Selling out on account

Going Out of Business

Entire Stocks—Women's and Misses'

Fashionable Apparel

Without Reserve and

Regardless of Cost

5,000 Silk, Cloth, Summer Dresses

1,200 Beautiful Tricotine Suits

500 Heather Mixture Jersey Suits

1,500 Wonderfully Styled Wraps

2,000 Wash Silk Sports Skirts

1,000 Smartest Tailored and Trimmed Hats

10,000 Fine Voile, Georgette, Tricolette Blouses

No Exchanges

No Credits

No Charges

Lee-Morris Co., 394 Fifth Ave., at 36th St.

Candies

OUR candies, made in our own candy kitchens and chocolate factories, by a splendid staff of candy makers, pledged to produce only the best, are packed and sealed at the candy makers' table and delivered fresh every few hours.

SPECIAL

Today and Wednesday

OLD DUTCH CHOCOLATES—These are made for the many lovers of bitter sweet chocolate. Made with large creamy centers in many flavors, chocolate, strawberry, coffee, lemon, and vanilla, and covered with a thick coating of bittersweet chocolate. A delightful combination in the tang of the coating and the sweet of the center. Special for today and Wednesday. 59¢ lb.

TINKABELLS—The children's all day delight. Old fashioned candy on a stick—lollipops. Made of pure sugar and pure fruit flavors so smooth that there are no rough parts to cut the tongue. Only hard wood sticks are used, so there is no danger of splinters. Each Tinkabell is wrapped in paper. These are packed in two sizes—6 in a box for 25¢, or a full lb. box for 50¢.

FULL WEIGHT—16 ounces of CANDY in every pound box

UNITED RETAIL CANDY STORES

42nd—also 43rd—bet. 5th and 6th Aves.

"The World's Largest Candy Store"

"Happiness in Every Box"

A candy service aiming to be the most pleasing in the world.



A candy service aiming to be the most pleasing in the world.

HAMILTON'S

50% Off—Silk Dresses—50% Off

1500 Dresses Reduced to Exactly ONE-HALF THEIR FORMER PRICES!

\$40,000 Worth of Dresses for \$20,000
Taffetas, Georgettes, Crepe de Chines, Satins, etc.



Advertised in New York World for \$26.95
Reduced one-half
Now \$13.50

Advertised in New York Tribune for \$26.95
Reduced one-half
Now \$13.50

\$27 and \$30 Silk Taffeta Dresses
Now \$13.50

Over 400 Long and Sport Coats for Summer
Wear at One-Half their Former Prices

The popular materials, including Velours, Poplins, Serges, Silvertones and Bolivias, in all the latest styles. Majority of All Wool Navy in each of the above materials.
Many as low as \$10. Some as high as \$40.

ALL MATERIALS—ALL SIZES—ALL COLORS

No Mail Orders, C. O. D.'s, Refunds or Exchanges

HAMILTON GARMENT CO.

307 FIFTH AVENUE NEAR 51ST ST.